

Tuesday 4th January 2022



Important COVID-19 update

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new term and happy new year to all. **We know how important it is for you to be able to send your child to school.** At Stoke Damerel we are taking a number of measures to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus, including:

- Encouraging all staff to test regularly, to minimise the risk of our teachers giving your child or other children Covid;
- Ensuring our staff and children practice good hygiene;
- Making sure our spaces are well ventilated; and
- Encouraging all members of our community to isolate and book a [PCR test](#) should they develop symptoms of the virus.

We are also asking all parents to test their children regularly/encourage their children to test regularly and to report each result. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. We are therefore asking all parents to test their children/encourage their children to test on Monday and Thursday evening and help us to keep Stoke Damerel open.

Testing for students after the holiday period

Students undertake **one** on-site test, on return in January. Students should then be strongly encouraged to continue testing twice weekly at home and to [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#). Even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFT testing once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take a LFT test every day for seven days once a COVID case is confirmed and continue to attend their school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Updated guidance on the use of face coverings in education settings

It is now recommended that face coverings are worn in classrooms where pupils in year 7 and above are educated. The advice is short term only, to support students and teachers as they return to school this term and builds on the existing proportionate guidance that recommends face coverings for all staff and students in communal areas of all settings. The advice on face coverings in classrooms will be in place until Wednesday 26 January. This is a parental responsibility to provide and send their child to school with a face covering. We have a limited supply for emergency use.

Changes to self-isolation periods

Since Wednesday, 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take lateral flow tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test and return to your education setting from day 8.

If students are self isolating please use this link for online learning [Stoke Damerel Community College - GLT Online Learning \(sdcc.net\)](https://www.sdcc.net) following the timetable below:

P0- Guided reading

P1- Maths

P2- Science

P3- Year 7,8,9 - Geography Year 10,11 - Option A

P4- Year 7,8,9 - History - Year 10,11 - Option B

P5-English - Blue

P6- Reading

Post 16, independent learning via google classroom.

Once again, I thank you for your support with this and hope this letter will help to reassure you that we are working collectively to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our College community..

Yours sincerely



Anita Frier
Principal